



Virginia Green Events



Steppin' Out Blacksburg, VA



Virginia Green is the Commonwealth of Virginia's campaign to promote environmentally-friendly practices in all aspects of Virginia's tourism industry. **Virginia Green** has established "core activities" specific to each sector of tourism, and these practices are considered the required minimum for participation in the program. However, **Virginia Green** encourages its participants to reduce their environmental impacts in all aspects of their operations, and this profile provides a full list of all their "green" activities. These are the activities that guests / customers can expect to find when they visit this facility.

Steppin' Out

Downtown Blacksburg, Inc. is located within the Community Arts Information Office at 149 College Avenue. We share this facility with other not for profit arts related groups.

We went green "to further our efforts in creating a sustainable community and to expand upon on Cool Cities Campaign. In partnership with the Town of Blacksburg, Downtown Blacksburg, Inc. (a non-profit group) we are offering permanent downtown collection sites for CFL's, batteries and printer cartridges. We are committed to becoming Greener!"

DBI spearheads the BUY EAT LIVE LOCAL campaign for Blacksburg. The Blacksburg Farmers Market takes place in the heart of our downtown and is a member of our organization. We support and encourage all things local. HELIUM BALLOON POLICY Downtown Blacksburg, Inc. acknowledges the potential dangers to the environment which can be caused by helium filled balloons. Therefore the use of helium balloons at festivals and events presented by Downtown Blacksburg, Inc. will not be permitted. Balloons filled with helium are not allowed to be sold, given away, on display, or in the booth of any vendor. Balloons that are not filled with helium, such as water balloons and balloons used to create balloon animals are allowed but must be correctly disposed of in a trash can after use. Policy Adopted October 2014

Virginia Green Activities

This facility pledges that they:

Recycle.

- Have in place clearly marked recycling locations and/or containers. Please check the items that visitors to your facility are able to recycle: (*minimum of 2 required*)
- Glass bottles

- Aluminum cans
- Plastic bottles

Minimize the use of disposable food service products.

- Use disposable food service items that are made with recycled content
- Use disposable food service items that are recyclable in your area

Printed Materials.

- Print brochures and other printed items on recycled content paper
- Print all documents double-sided
- Purchase/use paper products with 30% or higher recycled-content

Waste Reduction.

- Chose a **location/venue** that shares a similar commitment to reducing its environmental impacts and include green specifics in contracting. Please provide the "green details" on the venue:
- Provide condiments, cream and sugar, etc. in bulk
- Avoid box lunches and service trays/platters of food instead
- Encourage the use of mass-transit and/or carpooling to the event
- Other actions taken to reduce solid waste: Provide Free bus shuttle, encourage walking and biking to the event

Green Signage.

- Have a link on our website to the Virginia Green Events webpage
- Have a green event section on our events webpage highlighting all of our green activities
- Have signs at the event registration which list all of our green activities
- Use the Virginia Green logo on signs and on recycling containers



For more information on **Steppin' Out**, see www.blacksburgsteppinout.com or contact Laureen Blakemore at events@downtownblacksburg.com or 540-951-0454.

For more information on the Virginia Green program, see www.deq.state.va.us/Programs/PollutionPrevention/VirginiaGreen.aspx.



Virginia Green is a partnership supported by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the Virginia Hospitality & Tourism Association, and the Virginia Tourism Corporation.

